

1 CLAIMS:

2 1. An airbag system for jointly supporting at least two vehicle occupants
3 inside a motor vehicle in case of an accident comprising:

4 at least two separate airbags;

5 a common gas generator connected to the at least two airbags having
6 outflow areas associated with the at least two airbags such that the airbags are
7 inflatable with a gas supplied by the gas generator, wherein each airbag is sealed
8 against the other airbag by means of a deflector inserted therein; and

9 a common housing arranged in the dashboard of the motor vehicle,
10 wherein the at least two airbags are folded into the common housing.

11 2. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the at least two airbags
12 are deployed from the common housing in the same direction.

13 3. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising an additional
14 airbag folded into the common housing and connected to an additional outflow area of
15 the gas generator and sealed by means of an associated additional deflector.

16 4. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the gas
17 generator is designed for a symmetrical outflow capacity at the outflow areas provided.

18 5. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the outflow
19 areas of the gas generator associated with the at least two airbags have different outflow
20 capacities.

1 6. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the gas
2 generator is a biaxial gas generator and has a central combustion system with adjusted
3 gas distribution to its outflow areas.

4 7. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the gas
5 generator is a biaxial gas generator and has separate combustion systems assigned
6 respectively to its outflow areas.

7 8. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that two gas
8 generators are provided in the common housing, each having associated outflow areas,
9 wherein the gas generators operate as a two-stage system, and each airbag is connected to
10 the associated outflow areas of the two gas generators.

11 9. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the
12 deflectors arranged in the airbags can be interconnected and jointly mounted as a unit in
13 the common housing, together with the connected airbags.

14 10. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the airbags
15 are folded into the common housing with a substantially identical folding pattern.

16 11. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the airbags
17 are folded into the common housing with a different folding pattern.

18 12. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the airbags
19 are made of the same material.

20 13. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the airbags
21 are made of different materials.

1 14. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 2, characterized in that the gas
2 generator is designed for a symmetrical outflow capacity at the outflow areas provided.

3 15. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 2, characterized in that the outflow
4 areas of the gas generator associated with the at least two airbags have different outflow
5 capacities.

6 16. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in that the gas
7 generator is a biaxial gas generator and has a central combustion system with adjusted
8 gas distribution to its outflow areas.

9 17. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in that the gas
10 generator is a biaxial gas generator and has separate combustion systems assigned
11 respectively to its outflow areas.

12 18. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in that two gas
13 generators are provided in the common housing, each having associated outflow areas,
14 wherein the gas generators operate as a two-stage system, and each airbag is connected to
15 the associated outflow areas of the two gas generators.

16 19. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 14, characterized in that the
17 deflectors arranged in the airbags can be interconnected and jointly mounted as a unit in
18 the common housing, together with the connected airbags.

19 20. The airbag system as claimed in Claim 15, characterized in that the
20 deflectors arranged in the airbags can be interconnected and jointly mounted as a unit in
21 the common housing, together with the connected airbags.